



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/734,701	12/13/2000	Toru Okawa	614.1788D/DSG	7516

21171 7590 04/23/2003

STAAS & HALSEY LLP
700 11TH STREET, NW
SUITE 500
WASHINGTON, DC 20001

EXAMINER

HUYNH, BA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2173

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2003

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/734,701

Applicant(s)

TORU OKAWA

Examiner

Ba Huynh

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 1.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-913) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Art Unit:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, , 17-33, 35, 37-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US patent #5,636,336 (Adachi).

- As per claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33, 37, 41: Adachi teaches a display control system (figure 2) for data control during screen display operations, the system comprising a pointing device 32 that indicates a position 68 on a screen of a display unit 24, a graphic data processing means 22 having a deleting means 52 that successively deletes first elements (i.e., picture elements) of data from a specified area 64 of the screen and rearranges second elements remaining in the specified area (i.e., remaining picture elements) to provide an appearance that the second elements of data are gradually withdrawn from the specified area at the indicated position, the deleting means including a first density control unit that, in accordance with successively deleting the first elements of data, reduce a density of second elements (i.e., thinning out) remaining in the specified area (figures 1, 2, 7a-d).

Art Unit:

- As per claims 3, 7, 11, 15, 18, 22, 26, 30, 35, 38, 42: Adachi teaches a display control system (figure 2) for data control during screen display operations, the system comprising a pointing device 32 that indicates a position 68 on a screen of a display unit 24, a graphic data processing means 22 having a deleting means 52 that successively deletes first elements (i.e., picture elements) of data from a specified area 64 of the screen and rearranges second elements remaining in the specified area (i.e., remaining picture elements) to provide an appearance that the second elements of data are gradually withdrawn from the specified area at the indicated position, the deleting means including a speed control unit that control the time interval to be successively to be shorter depending on the pressure applied to the pen during the deletion process (col. 10, lines 28-47).

- As per claims 19, 23, 27, 31, 39, 43: Adachi teaches a display control system (figure 2) for data control during screen display operations, the system comprising a pointing device 32 that indicates a position 68 on a screen of a display unit 24, a graphic data processing means 22 having a restoring means 56 that successively restores first elements (i.e., picture elements) of data from a specified area 64 of the screen and rearranges second elements remaining in the specified area (i.e., remaining picture elements) to provide an appearance that the second elements of data are gradually reappears at the specified area at the indicated position, the restoring means including a first density control unit that, in accordance with successively restoring the first elements of data, increases the density of second elements (col. 9, lines 1-49; figures 1, 2, 7a-d).

Art Unit:

- As per claims 20, 24, 28, 32, 40, 44: Adachi teaches a display control system (figure 2) for data control during screen display operations, the system comprising
a pointing device 32 that indicates a position 68 on a screen of a display unit 24,
a graphic data processing means 22 having a restoring means 56 that successively restores first elements (i.e., picture elements) of data from a specified area 64 of the screen and rearranges second elements remaining in the specified area (i.e., remaining picture elements) to provide an appearance that the second elements of data are gradually reappears at the specified area at the indicated position, the restoring means including a speed control unit that control the time interval to be successively to be shorter depending on the pressure applied to the pen during the restoring process (col. 10, lines 28-47).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 34, 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adachi.

- As per claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 34, 36: Adachi fails to clearly teach the displaying of an image indication the completion of the deleting process. However, Official

Art Unit:

notice is taken implementation of displaying an image for indicating the completion of a process is well known. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to implement the displaying of an image indication the completion of the deleting process. Motivation of the implementation is for providing a visual feedback to the user.

Inquires

Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, (703) 308-9051 may be used for formal communications or (703) 305-9724 for informal or draft communications. NOTE: A Request for Continuation (Rule 60 or 62) cannot be faxed.

Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for informal facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ba Huynh whose telephone number is (703) 305-9794. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8.00AM to 4.30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Kim, can be reached on (703) 305-3821.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [mat.kim@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly

Art Unit:

signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

Huynh, Ba
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2173
4/20/02


BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER